

## **Appleby Archaeology**

Notes of the Committee Meeting of the Appleby Archaeology Group held on Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup> at Pear Tree Cottage Skirwith.

### Present

Richard Stevens	Chairman
Carol Dougherty	Membership Secretary
Tony Greenwood	Publicity
Martin Joyce	Newsletter Editor
Martin Railton	Field Work/Research
Phyl Rouston	Secretary

### Apologies

Mike Godfrey, Jen Callis

### Notes of the last meeting

Two corrections to numbering of items CWAAS AGM should be 1) 09/02/11 and Advertising in the Heart of Eden 4) 09/02/11 with these corrections the notes were agreed a correct record.

### 1/07/11 Matters arising

4)09/02/2011 CWAAS AGM Richard and Tony gave a good presentation.

### 2/07/11 Membership

Membership remains at around 60. A few members did not renew but new members have joined. There had been some response to final reminders.

### 3/07/11 Treasurer's Report

Mike sent a statement of accounts. The balance 25/6/2011 was £1027.88

### 4/07/11 Research 2011 Altogether Archaeology Brackenber Moor

An exciting week with approximately 10 volunteers each day. No evidence of Roman activity was found. Evidence of burning, the presence of cremated bones, some in a truncated collared urn, was found along with the evidence of post holes, a central mound, ditch and banks. The findings suggest that the site may have been a burial monument covered by cairn, which was later disturbed. These discoveries add more to our knowledge of the prehistoric landscape on Brackenber Moor and it is hoped that further research can be undertaken soon.

Paul Frodsham has advised that there is money for post excavation analysis and that pottery is to be sent to Blaise Vynner.

English Heritage and Cumbria County Council have been informed. Martin R has written a report, published in the Summer Newsletter and he will report back to the group at the AGM.

### 5/07/11 Correspondence

The following have been received:-

Newsletters from Appleby and Westmorland Society; Cumbria Local History Federation Bulletin and their 2011-2012 A-Z of speakers

No further details of a proposed conference by CBA NW and CBA N in Kendal on 29<sup>th</sup> October have been received

CBA North Newsletter will be sent in a pdf format in future and will be circulated to the committee.

### 6/07/11 Programme 2011

#### Summer

The first two events were well supported and 16 are booked to go to Furness on Sunday 10th.

Autumn 2001 September -December is now confirmed and details have been sent to Appleby TIC, CLHF, the Messenger and the Heart of Eden .

September Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Mark Graham Grampus Heritage and Training Ltd *2010 Excavations at Papcastle Cockermouth.*

October Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Erik Matthews *Hornby Castle Recent Excavations.*

November Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Jamie Lund National Trust North West Region *Archaeological Landscape Survey of the Sizergh Estate.*

December Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Anne Hamilton-Gibney *Cumbrian Connections: Lithic analysis in the Upper Eden Valley and an update on Living among the Monuments.*

Further discussion took place re the winter programme. Richard agreed to give a short presentation at the AGM and Phyl will contact Gabriel Blamires to ask if he could talk on the subject of his book *Guidestones to the Great Langdale Axe Factories Ancient ways to stone axe working sites in the English Lake District.*

#### 2012 Programme **To be confirmed**

January Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> AGM and Members' Evening

Richard Stevens *More on Abbeytown - an outlying chapel at Holme St. Cuthbert.*

Martin Railton *Altogether Archaeology on Brackenber Moor: Results of the 2011 Excavations.*

February Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Gabriel Blamires *Guidestones to the Great Langdale Axe Factories Ancient ways to stone axe working sites in the English Lake District.*

March Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Dr Ken Fairless and Jeff Lynn *The Northumberland and Durham Rock Art Project.*

April Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Paul Frodsham Historic Environment Officer North Pennines AONB Partnership *Update on Altogether Archaeology.*

Copies of the confirmed programme will be sent to committee members as soon as possible.

#### **7/07/11 Publicity Information on Talks**

Some discussion took place on writing short description of talks. It was felt some elaboration on the titles would help and make some topics more meaningful and would be used in the publicity in the Newsletter and on the posters. When booking a speaker a clear indication of the content of their talk should be sought and this information used by the committee for publicity material. This was done for the Spring meetings for use by MartinJ and Tony.

#### **8/07/11 Conference**

Approaches had been made to a possible chairman and topics had been discussed however little progress had been made and it was agreed not to proceed. In the meantime Richard has received an email from Harry Hawkins:-

"I have been approached by the Society for Landscape Studies of which I am a member, to help organise a conference in the Autumn of 2013 in the North West, preferably Cumbria, around the theme of Commons and Uplands. SLS hopes that the CWAAS will be a partner (their term) in organising the day.

Ever keen to put Appleby on the map I have suggested Appleby GS as a possible venue and wonder if the Group would also like to be involved. If not, I would still want to avoid a clash with any plans you might have for an event in 2013."

Discussion followed and it was agreed that Richard should contact Harry to explore this idea. All felt it could be a good way of promoting our group whose activities now focus on fieldwork.

#### **9/07/11 Committee :- Chairman and Secretary**

Phyl agreed that her name could go forward and that it would be an honour to take up the office of

chairman.. She was assured of the support of those present. The secretary's role would then become vacant. Richard will consider taking on that role. Phyl has been the secretary from the inception of the group and the role has incorporated many activities over the years and it may be that some of the tasks could be redistributed. Phyl agreed to prepare a list of what she does to be circulated to the committee and discussed at the next meeting.

It was suggested that Stephen Walker would be a welcome addition to the committee and could be approached in the autumn.

All proposals for changes to the committee will be taken to the AGM in January

**10/07/11 AOB**

1) Martin J reported back on his disappointment at the *The Roman Frontier: Stories Beyond Hadrian's Wall exhibition* at the Tullie Museum.

2) Martin R reminded the group about the next Altogether Archaeology field work project which starts on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July. on the Maiden Way Roman Road near Whitley Castle and that volunteers are needed. The membership has been sent an email.

Date and time of next meeting **Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm at Swinhead Barn North Stainmore**

PHR 12th July 2011